

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 030038  
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 /067 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:REGTRIBBIN:LA  
APPROVED BY AF/C:LDJUNIOR  
AF/I:LSHURTLEFF (INFO)  
D/HA:RMAXIM (INFO)  
-----047639 041409Z /43  
R 040421Z PEB 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BANGUI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, CT

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR MAIDOU'S COMMENTS ON THE CENTRAL  
AFRICAN EMPIRE'S HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT

1. AMBASSADOR MAIDOU OF THE CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE,  
CALLED ON AF/C OFFICER DIRECTOR FEB. 3, TO DISCUSS  
HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT ON THE CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE. MAIDOU  
EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR RECEIVING THE REPORT PRIOR TO  
CONGRESSIONAL DISCUSSIONS. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT OTHER  
AF/C REPORTS WERE VALUABLE FOR COMPARATIVE PURPOSES.  
HE STATED THAT HE WAS UNABLE TO OFFICIALLY COMMENT UPON  
THE REPORT WITHOUT INSTRUCTION FROM HIS GOVERNMENT.  
NONETHELESS, HE STATED HIS UNDERSTANDING OF THE  
LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE REPORT AND PROMISED TO  
COMMUNICATE THIS CONTEXT TO HIS GOVERNMENT. HE LATER  
NOTED THAT FROM HIS PERSONAL PERSPECTIVE THE REPORT WAS  
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FACTUALLY ACCURATE.

2. MAIDOU REITERATED THE POLICY LINE WHICH HE HAS FOLLOW-  
ED SINCE DECEMBER CONSULTATIONS, I.E. EMPEROR AND GOCAE  
HAVE UNDERTAKEN A CONSCIENTIOUS POLICY OF RECONCILIATION  
WITH THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT. AMONG OTHER THINGS THIS

INVOLVES A DECISION TO PUT PAST DIFFERENCES AND MIS-  
UNDERSTANDINGS BEHIND, AND WORK COOPERATIVELY TO AVOID

FUTURE CONFRONTATIONS. MAIDOU NOTED THAT THIS HAD BEEN  
REASON FOR CENTRAL AFRICAN INVITATION TO MEMBERS OF  
CONGRESS AND HIGH LEVEL DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS TO VISIT  
CAE.

3. IN PERSONAL OBSERVATION, MAIDOU WONDERED RHETORICALLY  
WHETHER THE SYSTEMATIC IMPOSITION OF AMERICAN HUMAN  
RIGHTS PHILOSOPHY WAS CONDUCTIVE TO IMPROVING RELATIONS  
BETWEEN COUNTRIES. HE NOTED THAT AFRICAN CULTURE AND  
HISTORY DIFFER FROM THAT OF US AND THAT THESE DIFFERENCES  
NOT APPARENT IN THE REPORT. HE ALSO ASKED WHAT CONSTITUTED  
INTERNATIONAL NORM FOR PRISONS AND OBSERVED THAT GOCAE  
PRIORITIES FOR SOCIAL SERVICES WERE FOR SCHOOLS AND  
CLINICS RATHER THAN WESTERN STYLE PRISONS.

4. COMMENT: MAIDOU TOOK HIS USUAL LOW KEY APPROACH TO  
THE ISSUE AND MADE CLEAR THE SEPARATION BETWEEN HIS  
OFFICIAL RESPONSE AND HIS PERSONAL VIEWS ON THE REPORT.  
VANCE

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NNN

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AMBASSADORS, ANNUAL REPORTS, HUMAN RIGHTS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Document Number:** 1978STATE030038  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** n/a  
**Errors:** n/a  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Subject:** AMBASSADOR MAIDOU'S COMMENTS ON THE CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE'S HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT  
**TAGS:** SHUM, CT, SHUM, (MAIDOU, CHRISTOPHE)  
**To:** BANGUI  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014